GRACE CHURCH VISITOR

A MONTHLY DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF THE GRACE REFORMED CHURCH AND SUNDAY SCHOOL.

VOLUME II.

FORT WAYNE, IND., JANUARY, 1890.

NUMBER 1.

ANNUAL CHURCH MEETING.



HIS was a meeting of much interest to the members of Grace Church. Reports were read by the the treasurers of the different societies and boards of the church. It was encouraging to learn of the funds collected by the church during the past year. One noticeable feature of the

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finances of the past year, was the amount contributed for benevolence, which was much larger than in former years. The amount contributed for congregational purposes was also in excess of former years. The Lord is not slack concerning his promises. "Give, and it shall be given unto you." Man cannot surpass the Almighty. The Almighty may surpass man.

The reports of the different treasurers and boards, were referred to the consistory, which was constituted an auditing committee. These reports have been examined and found correct, and the secretary has been instructed to place them upon the records of the church.

If the church will contribute as liberally, and work as earnestly, during the coming year, as in the past, the remaining indebtedness upon the parsonage lot will be cancelled within the next six months. The next work of the church will then be to accumulate funds to erect the main church building, which must be done in the near future. Grace Church, we believe, is coming to an age when this work can be done, and must be done. With man many things seem impossible, but with the Lord all things are possible. We are quite certain that a larger audience room would already prove a great advantage to our church. While our church parlors are comfortable and cozy, we must remember that at some day, we must move to the front. We must toil for such a multiplication of our numbers that we shall have both the necessity and ability to possess a larger field. Many times our rooms are now already entirely too small for the multitudes which come to our place of wor-

ship, and we feel confident many more would come, if they had the assurance that they could be accommodated. We must be awake both to our opportunities and our needs, and if we are diligent, the Lord will not forget us in our toil, and our wants. The next five years must be made telling years of work and success for Grace church. Let every brother and sister get this truth into the heart, and be ready for the work. Let us make this year of 1890, eventful in consecrated toil for the Lord and for our church. We hope to hear of still better and greater things achieved by Grace church, to be reported at the annual church meeting Jan. 1, 1891. The mighty God is with us, therefore will we not fear.

A living dog is better than a dead lion.—Ecc. 9, 4.

Thou hast a name that thou livest and art dead.—Rev, 3, 1.

Did you Lear the paster's sermon on the above texts, and on the topic "The Dead Church?" Or are you one of those dead souls that frequents the house of the God, only at great intervals? Have you a name that you are alive and are dead? You should have heard the narration of the dreams the pastor recently had about Grace Church. Are you dead? Will you pray God in your own behalf that you may be resurrected unto newness of life? "A living dog is better than a dead lion." Grace Church, with its entire membership, needs a baptism of fire, and a mighty quickening from

Last year a number of our members subscribed for the VISITOR and had it sent to some friends in whom they were especially interested. This is one way of doing missionary work, and of working for Grace Church. How many are willing to invest 25 cents in this way this year.

The members of Grace church will be sorry to learn that Mr. and Mrs. Bendorf, expect to remove from us in a few weeks. They will return to their former home, Litchfield, Ill. They have endeared themself to all our people and we are sorry to part with them.

THE PASTOR OF

GRACE CHURCH

BEGINS SUNDAY EV'NG, JAN. 26,

A SERIES OF

ILLUSTRATED SERMONS.

To Be Continued During the Week, on the Following Topics.

- 1. THE LOST MAN, No. 1; Or, Parable of the Rich Man and Lazarus.—Luke 16, 19-31.
- 1. The Rich Man's Feast, "Fared sumptuously,"
- 2. The Rich Man's Frailty. "Also died."
- 3. The Rich Man's Funeral. "And was buried."
- 2. THE LOST MAN, (Continued.)—Luke 16, 19-31.
- 1. Pictures Memory Paints. "Son remember."
- 2. Partition Gulf. "Great gulf fixed."
- 3. "Though One Rose from the Dead."
- 3. THE LOST COIN,-Luke 15, 8-10,
- 1. The Startling Discovery.
- 2. The Search with Lighted Candle.
- 3. The Joy in the Recovery.
- 4 THE LOST SHEEP.—Luke 15, 1-7.
- 1. Straying.
- 2. Sought.
- 3. Saved.

These parables will be illustrated with twelve large paintings, and we are certain will not fail to be instructive, to every one. Every member of the church should hear these sermons, and every one should make an effort to bring their unconverted friends to These parables are these meetings. some of the most impressive of all of our Lord's teachings. Pray that the Lord may arouse an interest in your heart in these special services, and pray for the out-pouring of the Holy Spirit upon our church, that our people may be renewed in their spiritual life and that there may be a harvest souls among us.

The hat has finally settled on the pastor's head. How long it shall remain there remains to be ascertained in the future. Thanks brethren.

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GRACE CHURCH VISITOR.

25 Cents per Year.

REV. A. K. ZARTMAN, A. M., - - EDITOR.

Board of Managers; REV. A. K. ZARTMAN, F. D. PAULUS, and D. W. SOUDER.

Entered at the postoffice at Fort Wayne, Indiana, as second-class matter. Feb. 7, 1889.

WITH this issue the GRACE CHURCH VISITOR begins its visits and friendly greetings among its patrons for the year of 1890. The Visitor has happily survived the experience and the toils of its first year of existence. It has passed through its period of birth and infancy, and has grown into healthy aud magnificeut proportions. In the out-start of this new year it comes to its friends with a greeting of cheer and good will, and a heart full of gratitude. The VISITOR was not ushered into existence amid the noise and flourish of many trumpets. It was of humble birth, and made no great adieu about its future. Its only hope was to fill a very humble mission, in bearing words of counsel and of intelligence to its friends, and to be a co-worker in the interests of Grace Church and of our Reformed churches in the city and surrounding country. The Visitor has aimed to be a helper to the pastor in the execution of his work, and of saying a helpful word in season. We are gratified to know that the VISITOR has surpassed our expectations in accomplishing its humble purpose. It has been kindly received at the hands of the public, and has been a welcome guest in all our homes, and in many homes abroad. We hope it has not failed to counsel erring souls, and to gladden sorrowed hearts, and to sow the good seed upon the well-tilled soil. The purpose of the Visitor has been to do all of its patrons good and only good. With this humble purpose the VISITOR enters upon its second year of experience and labor. May it enjoy the favor and the prayer of its frieuds in the future, and may it be an evangel of good to all its readers and patrons. The Grace Church Visitor wishes all its friends a happy and prosperous New

Copies of the January number of the Visitor will be sent to our old subscribers and many of our friends, hoping that all may at once subscribe for this year. Some have already renewed their subscriptions. The Visitor should have a much larger circulation this year than it had during the last year.

REOPENING SERVICE OF THE SALEM'S REFORMED CHURCH.

Sabbath morning, Decomber 29th, was a pleasant occasion for the people of this church. For some months past, as already indicated in the VISITOR, this church had been undergoing a process of alteration and repairing. the above date the work was fairly completed, and the pastor held a service appropriate for the occasion, with this people, in their renewed honse of worship. Scrvices were held also on Saturday afteruoon and evening previous to the Sabbath morning service. The attendance was quite large at these services and the congregation seemed to be filled with a new spirit. This congregation has now a very comfortable and beautiful honse in which to worship.

Every one should now take a particular pride in keeping the house and surrounding premises in a good condition, Those beautiful walls and carpets should not be carelessly and willfully soiled. The floors should be kept clean and free from tobacco stains. And as the house has been renewed and beautified, so now should, also, the people be renewed in their spiritual life, and in their devotions to the Lord. With this achieved, we prophesy great things for this church. The Lord delights in a beautiful house of worship, and in a reople whose heart is renewed. May the Lord bless the people of this community, and make them evermore a God fearing and a holy people, and add unto their numbers many of those who shall be saved.

How much will you pay to Grace Church during the year of '90? Statements and blanks have been sent out to all the members of the church soliciting their subscriptions for this year. Iu filling out these blanks you are to indicate how much you will be able to pay per Sabbath, or month. Our advice is to every member, pay so much every week to the Lord. In this way every one can pay something, and pay with ease. A large number of our members have now adopted this plau of weekly payments, and many of them have expressed themselves as surprised with what ease they have been able to pay even large amounts to the Lord in this way. You may not be able to pay five dollars to the church at any one time in the year, but you can pay ten cents a week, and then at the end of the year you will have paid five dol-Who and twenty cents. lars this small amount cannot pay every Sabbath to the Lord? Who is it that cannot do this? Practice a little economy and self denial, and every one can pay something to the church. During the past year many of our church paid fifty cents per week, others twenty-five cents, and a goodly number exceeded their promises, paying more than they subscribed. This is a commendable spirit. What shall our records show this year? No one asks for more than simply what the Lord asks, Send in your subscriptions at once, and secure from the deacons a package of envelopes, and begin the good work of giving. Never pay without putting your amounts into an envelope bearing your name. Otherwise the deacous cannot know who to credit. Giving to the Lord is a privilege that is denied to no oue, and it should be to every child of God one of the most pleasant privileges accorded to us in the church.

AT REST.

Mrs. Margaret Wininghoff departed this life Dec. 31, '89, after an illness of but a few days. Was aged 40 years, 3 months and 9 days. The husband, three daughters and two sons, remain to mourn the loss of an affectionate wife and a loving mother. The funeral services were held on Friday afternoon Jan. 3d, at the Grace church. The pastor's sermon for this occasion was based upon the words of the Psalmist. From the end of the earth will I cry unto thee, when my heart is overwhelmed: lead me to the rock that is higher thau I. Ps. 61-2.

For a year past the children of this mother have been in our Sabbath school and on Easter last, the eldest daughter, Mollie, united with the church, which was a matter of much rejoicing to this mother. In the near future this mother purposed to have her name enrolled, with her daughter, upon the records of our church. While her name was not upon our records, her heart was with us. She has now gone to the "church of the first-born, which are written in heaven."

We shall hope to see this entire family of father and children gathered one by one into the fold of our Lord, where they shall be safe unto the final coming of our Master. May our sympathizing Lord and Master deal gently will this bereaved household and comfort their hearts.

For 25 ceuts the Grace Church Visitor will come to your home once a month during the year of '90.

Father Bolander is visiting with friends at Akron, Ohio.

GRACE REFORMED CHURCH

DIRECTORY.

Our Church Parlors on East Washington St., between Barr and Lafayette streets.

SERVICES.

Sabbath morning,	-	-	-	-	-		10:30
Sabbath evening	-	-	-	-	-	-	7:30
Sunday School, -	-	-	-	-	-		9:30
Teachers' meeting						-	6:30
Prayer meeting We							7:30
Come, and welcon							
A K ZARTMAN Pastor.							

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WOMEN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

Mrs. A. K. Zartman—President. Mrs. F. D. Paulus—Vice President. Emma Neiriter—Secretary. Mrs. M. Conet—Treasurer.

BRIEF AND PERSONAL NOTES.

Subscribe for the Grace Church Visitor.

Our Mid-Winter Communion Service February 2.

All the subscribtions for the VISITOR expired with the December number.

The St. Johns and Salem churches had pleasant and interesting Christmas services.

Have you renewed your subscriptions to the church for this year? If not, do so at once.

We were glad to see Mr. and Mrs. Kirkham and daughters at our services during the Christmas season.

Mr. and Mrs. Conrad, of Canton, Ohio, after nearly a year's absence, are again guests at the pastor's home.

The pastor's family was kindly remembered by the church and friends during the Christmas season. Thanks to all.

There has been a great amount of sickness among our people receutly, which has detained some from our special services, but there has been far more indisposition in the heart, than sickness of body.

January 2, the pastor delivered his lecture on "Happy and Unhappy Marriages," at Goshen. Mrs. Zartman and daughter, Josie, accompanied the pastor on this trip. It was very pleasant to meet with old friends and parishioners again. The Goshen people are happy and prosperous.

THERE has been an unusual interest manifested in the pastor's Sabbath evening sermons on marriage. We hope these large congregations have not only been entertained, but also profited. Some people have itching ears, but very stupid hearts. In the near future the pastor will preach a series of sermons on "Home and Home Life." The special topics will be announced later.

Our Christmas exercises were well received by every person who was present. The church was crowded and a great many failed to find an entrance. The evening was very disagreeable, and many who came to the church met with a double misfortune: they were unable to get into the rooms and were compelled to go home in the drenching rain. The cantata was well rendered. The offerings for benevolence amounted to \$32.12.

Since our last issue we received the sad intelligence of the death of a very dear friend and brother, Mr. John Wagoner, of Lindsey, Ohio. This brother was one of our first couverts to the Lord. Some fourteen years ago while laboring in that portion of Ohio, during the first series of special services we ever held, this brother came into the church. He has ever since been a very particular friend of the pastor's. He was of a kind heart, and genial disposition. Beloved and esteemed by a large circle of friends. The bereaved wife and only daughter and friends have our sympathies and prayer. We were notified in due time of his death and funeral, but owing, partly to ill health, and other engagement, we could not leave home at that time. May the Lord comfort the bereaved.

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RESULTS OF ELECTION ON NEW YEARS DAY.

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Elder E. G. Pierce. Deacon-Chas. Troxal. Trustec-F. D. Paulus,

Treasurer-H. P. Vordermark.

SUNDAY SCHOOL OFFICERS

Superintendent-F. D. Paulus. Secretary-Philip Hyman.

Treasurer-Katie Vordermark.

Librarian-Freddie Gumper.

At a meeting recently held by the Ladies' Missionary Society, the following persons were elected to office. President, Mrs. A. K. Zartman; Vice President, Mrs. F. D. Paulus; Secretary, Miss Emma Neireiter; Treasurer, Mrs. Martin Conet; Executive Committee, Mrs. A. M. Henderson, Mrs. Louisa Miller and Mrs, Peter Kline. The Ladies' Society did a grand work during the past year. They are now well organized, and we shall hope to see the society do as effectual work in the future as it did in the past. If all the ladies of Grace Church would fall into rank with their sisters, and be as earnest in their toil, what a power this society would be for good. Why not put on the armor, and have part and lot with your sisters in this glorious work? The pastor's word of counsel is, come every woman of Grace Church, be one of this band of consecrated workers.

A WORD FOR OUR ADVERTISERS.

Some changes have been made in our advertisement columns, and we hope with an advantage to our advertisers. Many of our last year's advertisers remain with us again this year, while a number of new ones appear in our columns. We shall hope that our readers will look through our advertisements, and patronize these firms. They are honest and responsible parties and will show you their goods, and make you the best of prices. We have personally found these gentleman very pleasant and very kind, and found it to our profit to trade with them.

REV. CHARLES SCHAFF, of Huntington, preached some able and eloquent sermons at Grace Church, during the meetings in progress since the Week of Prayer. If only more of our people could have heard these sermons. Brother Schaff is succeeding grandly with his work at Huntington. He will now have English services at his church every Sabbath evening. This is a move in the right direction.

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